

Message Text

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16

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 IO-10 OMB-01 AID-05 /069 W

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O 120740Z NOV 74

FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6233

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

AMCONSUL THESSALONIKI

UNCLAS ATHENS 8118

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, US, CY, GR

SUBJ: GREEK GOVERNMENT CLARIFICATIONS RE U.S. PRESS

ARTICLES ON CYPRUS

1. GOG ISSUED TWO CLARIFYING STATEMENTS NOVEMBER 11 REFERRING TO U.S PRESS REPORTS. ATHENS NEWSPAPERS AND NATIONAL RADIO CARRIED BOTH STATEMENTS. FIRST STATEMENT AS REPORTED SEMI-OFFICIAL ATHENS NEWS AGENCY (ANA) NOTED THAT FM BITSIOS DENIED PRESS REPORTS IN U.S THAT THERE HAS BEEN AN APPROACH OF VIEWS BETWEEN GREECE AND TURKEY ON CYPRUS ISSUE, AND GREEK SIDE DOES NOT WISH THIS TO BE MADE KNOWN BECAUSE OF NOVEMBER 17 ELECTIONS. BITSIOS SAID "THERE HAS BEEN NO APPROACH OF VIEWS BETWEEN INTERESTED PARTIES. THE ONLY POSITIVE POINT REMAINS UNGA RESOLUTION ON CYPRUS. CONSEQUENTLY THE ABOVE REPORTS IN AMERICAN PRESS ARE INACCURATE AND PROBABLY, IN VIEW OF FORTHCOMING ELECTIONS, SUSPICIOUS (I.E. POLITICALLY MOTIVATED).

2. SECOND STATEMENT ATTRIBUTED TO "COMPETENT SOURCE" DENIED REPORT IN AMERICAN MAGAZINE NEWSWEEK QUOTING GREEK FM BITSIOS AS TELLING HIS AMERICAN COUNTERPART SECRETARY KISSINGER THAT GREECE AND TURKEY HAD DRAWN CONSIDERABLY CLOSER TO AN AGREEMENT
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OVER CYPRUS, AND THAT THE PREMIER, MR. CARAMANLIS, DID NOT WANT

ANY FURTHER STEPS TO BE TAKEN BEFORE THE ELECTIONS. ACCORDING
TO ANA, "SOURCE SAID THAT DURING THIS RECENT MEETING WITH
KISSINGER IN ROME, BITSIOS CLARIFIED GREEK VIEWS ON CYPRUS CRISIS
TO MAKE CERTAIN DR. KISSINGER WOULD BE LEFT IN NO DOUBT
WHATEVER PRIOR TO THE VISIT WHICH HE HAD BEEN SCHEDULED TO
PAY TO ANKARA, BUT WHICH FINALLY DID NOT TAKE PLACE.
KUBISCH

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